

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. An apparatus for supplying standby power comprising:

5 a first standby power supply means, provided with a solar cell for generating electric power from solar rays and a battery section for storing the electric power from said solar cell, for supplying the standby power;

a second standby power supply means for receiving electric power from an industrial and/or a domestic power supply and for supplying standby power therefrom after conversion into a desired voltage; and

10 a switching means for supplying the standby power from said first standby power supply means or said second standby power supply mean with the supply of the standby power from said first standby power supply means being given priority and for switching the supply of the standby power from said first standby power supply means to said second standby power supply  
15 means when the electric power supplied from said first standby power supply means falls below a predetermined level.

2. An apparatus for supplying standby power according to claim 1,  
wherein it is determined in said switching means whether the electric power  
20 supplied from said first standby power supply means is below said predetermined level based on a voltage thereof.

3. An apparatus for supplying standby power according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said switching means is further arranged to switch the  
25 supply of the standby power between said first standby power supply means and said second standby power supply means in such a manner that the supply of the standby power is maintained even when the switching is made.

4. An apparatus for supplying standby power comprising:

a first standby power supply means, provided with a solar cell for generating electric power from solar rays and a battery for storing the electric power from said solar cell, for supplying the standby power;

5 a second standby power supply means for receiving electric power from an industrial and/or a domestic power supply and for supplying standby power therefrom after conversion into a desired voltage; and

a switching means for switching supply of the standby power between said first standby power supply means and said second standby power supply mean in such a manner that the supply of the standby power is maintained even when the switching is made.

5. An apparatus for supplying standby power according to claim 4, wherein said switching means comprises a backup section for storing the standby power supplied from at least one of said first standby power supply means and said second standby power supply means.

6. An apparatus for supplying standby power according to claim 5, wherein said backup section comprises at least one of an electrolytic capacitor and a secondary battery.